



"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS. NEUTRAL IN NONE."

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HARRISON'S WORDS OF TRUTH.

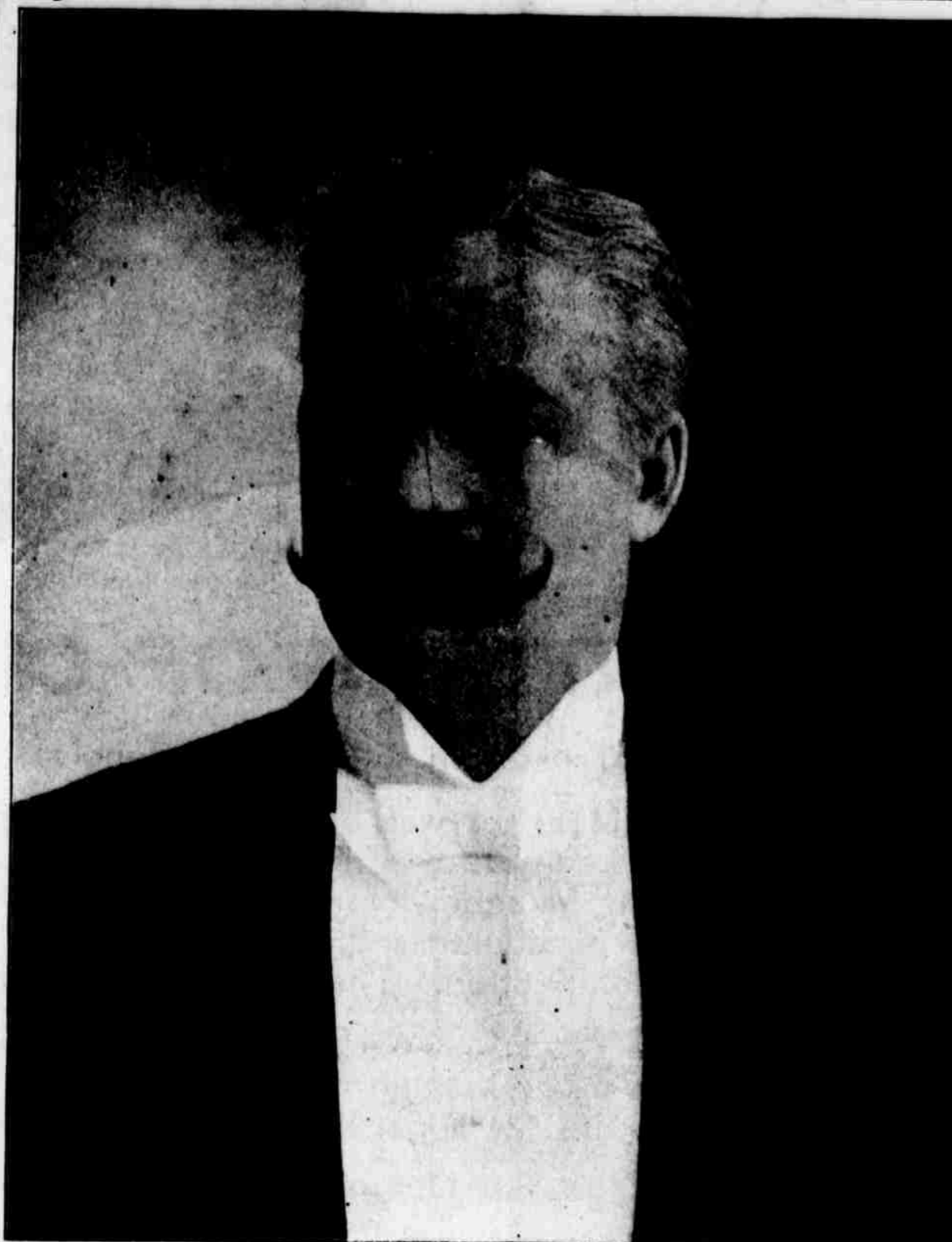
Before Seven Thousand of the Business Men of Chicago at the Big Auditorium,

The Mayor Gives the History of an Administration Which Is Full of Honor.

Some Facts Which Every Voter and Every Citizen Should Read and Reflect Upon.

Franklin H. Head Presides and Makes a Strong Appeal to the Thoughtful Voter.

Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones and Hon. Joseph Powell, Also Strong Republicans, Declare Themselves.



HON. WASHINGTON PORTER.

Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions at the Auditorium Business Men's Harrison Meeting.

The great Auditorium was crowded to the doors on Wednesday night by the business men of Chicago, who gathered there for the purpose of endorsing the administration of Carter H. Harrison as Mayor of Chicago.

Mayor Harrison was received enthusiastically. There were fully 7,000 persons present, including a fair sprinkling of women in the parquet and boxes, whose costumes added to the effectiveness of the decorations, in which the American flag predominated.

All the speakers were well received, and every telling point they made was the signal for applause. The brilliant oratory of the Rev. Dr. Jenkin Lloyd Jones and the polished address of Jos. Powell were received with less enthusiasm than the plain matter-of-fact statements of Mayor Harrison.

Mayor Harrison, after a brief introduction, began a recital of the good works that he believed had been accomplished during his administration. He cited the fact that the cost to the city of the fire light in the last two years had been reduced from \$108 to \$68 a year per lamp, and predicted that if the present management continued the cost within the next year would be brought below \$60. He mentioned that in the building of intercepting sewers alone there had been saved to the city, through co-operation with the sanitary district board, \$1,500,000, not to speak of the saving that would accrue through the operation of these sewers by the sanitary district. When he took office, the Mayor continued, eight miles of railroad tracks in Chicago had been elevated. Now there had either been elevated or were in process of elevation over forty-seven miles.

Touching the attacks that have been made upon him for alleged interference in school matters, Mayor Harrison said:

"I have never interfered with the affairs or business of the Board of Education save on two occasions—when the teachers wanted their salaries raised and when the question of a superintendent was under consideration. When Dr. Andrews came to this city it was generally charged that I was going to convert the public schools of Chicago into kindergartens for the dissemination of the doctrine of free coinage of silver in the ratio of 16 to 1. How ridiculous this assertion was must be apparent to you when I say that one day when Dr. Andrews came into my office, after his appointment, he talked with me for fifteen minutes and I did not know who he was, and he had been gone from my office fifteen minutes before I knew with whom I had been talking.

"One of the attacks made upon me during my administration was based upon the presumption that my administration was to be run for political purposes and without reference to the common good. Bids for the construction of the intercepting sewers were invited. The lowest bidder was the Star Construction Company. The next lowest was the firm of Gahan & Byrne, composed of two of the Democratic party's most prominent local politicians. The newspapers asserted that some excuse would be found to give the contract to Gahan & Byrne. I, however, investigated the Star Construction Company and found its financial condition and record for performance of contracts to be good; that it was able to file a sufficient bond and capable of doing the work properly, so, although the men interested in the Star Company were all Republicans, they received the \$800,000 contract and are now doing the work.

"I come now to the question of Chicago's streets, which my opponent promises to keep as clean as the floors of this hall. I tell you, my friends, the question of keeping our streets clean is entirely a question of funds. The city of Chicago, with 24,000 miles of streets, mostly unpaved, and 700 miles of unpaved alleys, has at its disposal for street-cleaning purposes \$900,000. The city of New York, with less than 700 miles of streets—that is, old New York, before the annexation of a large portion of the State—has at its disposal \$9,500,000. No man ever ran for Mayor of Chicago who did not promise clean streets. I did so myself two years ago, and I have been ashamed of myself ever since—but I had the excuse that I never had held public office. Mr. Carter is now promising to clean the streets. Well, he has been a member of the City Council Finance Committee, and he should know the difficulties that stand in the way. If he doesn't, he has not been a good Alderman, and if he hasn't proven a good Alderman how can he be expected to make a good Mayor?

"The all-absorbing question before the people of Chicago in this campaign, as it has been during the last two years, is the subject of street-railway legislation. The present administration, if it has done nothing else, has firmly established the principle that persons or corporations who seek private use of public resources must pay to the city of Chicago fair and proper compensation therefor. To that principle, as regards traction company franchises, I stand firmly pledged. The streets of Chicago may be dirty, but they have never been so dirty that Charles T. Yerkes and other public plunderers have not desired to steal them.

"I may state my views on traction company legislation in a very few words. In the first place I believe that the solution of this problem lies ultimately in municipal ownership, when conditions shall be ripe for the city to avail itself of it. Meantime in my opinion the program that will best serve the citizens' interests is, first, that the franchise shall be extended in any case for a period longer than that covered by the franchise now in existence that has the greatest term to run; that no franchise shall be granted that does not provide adequate compensation to the city, based upon a percentage of gross receipts; that reduction of fare for the benefit of citizens, particularly the wage-earners, who travel to and from their work in the early morning and in the evening be insisted upon. To these things I pledge myself if I am elected for another term.

"I have no word to say against Mr. Carter personally. He is an elegant, nice-mannered, well-behaved gentleman, but his nomination was dictated by 'Billy' Lorimer. 'Billy' Lorimer is John R. Tanner's man, and John R. Tanner represents Charles T. Yerkes. Yerkes is behind Tanner. Tanner is behind Lorimer and Lorimer is behind Carter.

"The great Auditorium was crowded to the doors on Wednesday night by the business men of Chicago, who gathered there for the purpose of endorsing the administration of Carter H. Harrison as Mayor of Chicago.

"Now I would like to call your attention to a speech made by my chief competitor, Mr. Zina R. Carter, on the West Side several nights ago. He was talking on the question of street-railroad franchises, and he said: 'I mention these facts to show how rapidly this question is growing, and for that reason I am in favor of giving the people further opportunity to study this question. There is no necessity for haste in this matter. By keeping it close to the people and letting their thoughts crystallize it will be much better.' Now I would like to say to Mr. Carter that, while he is allowing the people's thoughts to crystallize, if he does nothing more than he has said here, the City Council will probably have granted the extensions to the companies, the street-car companies will have all that they desire and large chunks of street-railroad money will be crystallizing in the Aldermen's pockets."

Franklin H. Head presided at the meeting. In opening he said he thought it was no time to permit incursions of political opinion. It was his intention to vote for Carter H. Harrison for Mayor of Chicago. He arrived at this conclusion, he explained, merely as a simple business proposition.

Mr. Head introduced ex-Congressman Julius Goldsler, who read the report of the committee on resolutions, which reviewed Mayor Harrison's public career and commended him to the independent voters of Chicago. This reading was followed by the reading of a somewhat similar set of resolutions offered by the Harrison Real-Estate Men's League. Both were received with applause and cheering, and the adoption of each set of resolutions was by a unanimous vote that rang out from pit to roof.

Ex-Representative Joseph Powell was introduced as the first speaker. In part he said:

"I am here not as a partisan, but as an independent American citizen. I have come because I think it is my duty. One of the complaints made against the administration of Mayor Harrison is that we have dirty streets. That always has been the case and always will be so long as we have the present system. Another complaint has been that his administration has not shown sufficient respect for the civil service law. I have looked into this matter and have satisfied myself that the law has been juggled from the time of its creation up to this time, but that it is more faithfully enforced to-day than it ever was before. Mr. Harrison is a partisan and so was Mr. Swift.

Mr. Swift on taking his seat was enabled to delay the operation of the civil-service law for three months, giving him the opportunity of 'turning the rascals out' and putting his rascals in. Mr. Harrison, before his election, promised you that he would turn out Swift's rascals, and he did. In my thirty years' experience in Chicago this is the first time that I ever knew a chief executive to stand so solidly that neither corporate nor private interests could get through the Council legislation injurious to the common good."

Mr. Powell was followed by the Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, of All Souls' Church. Said Dr. Jones:

"I belong to the great army of scratchers, and may that army ever increase in number. I have voted in Chicago for twenty years, and I have never voted a straight ticket, and the Lord helping me, I never will. I am a confirmed, chronic scratcher, and I believe the safety of this community lies with the men who scratch. I am going to vote a scratched ticket on April 4. I am going to vote for Carter Harrison, and I am here to tell you why. I am going to vote for Carter Harrison because I can box his compass three-quarters of the way round, and I cannot do as much with the others. I don't know what is going to happen in the other quarters, even in his case, but I'm willing to take that other quarter on trust. I think you will all agree with me when I state that we could not do with any sense of comfort or faith in the result placed in the City Hall a man who is backed and supported by the present Republican machine. He must either be false to the people or break faith with his friends, and I want to say this to Mayor Harrison publicly and now, as I said to him in private, that if he is re-elected, as I hope and believe he will be, he must in some way break faith with the people or hold his friends well in check."

Dr. Jones reviewed Mayor Harrison's franchise fight and general administration record, declaring that all his public acts gave guaranty of faithful service in the future. He concluded with the remark that in his second term the Mayor would have an opportunity to write such a record as would enable him in the future to write his record as the President of the United States. The remark was greeted with the greatest outburst of the evening. Men waved their hats and handkerchiefs and yelled themselves hoarse.

It pains us to notice that John M. Smyth, Fred M. Blount and the rest of the Republican leaders are out of town, to be gone till after election.

The following are talked of as the probable members of Zina R. Carter's cabinet in the event of his election:

Comptroller—Charles W. Andrews.
Chief of Police—John Hill.
Fire Marshal—John P. Altgeld.
Private Secretary—G. P. English.
Corporation Counsel—John S. Miller.
Prosecuting Attorney—John T. Richards.

Superintendent of Special Assessments—Franklin Sawyer.
Commissioner of Health—W. R. Kerr.
Gas Inspector—Homer B. Galpin.
Oil Inspector—Wm. J. Cooke.
Smoke Inspector—Gustav A. Pochlman.

Secretary Health Department—M. E. Dickson.
Custodian of Stolen Property—Fred M. Blount.

Chief of Detectives—Chas. S. Berry.
City Collector—William Elfeldt.
Superintendent Water Department—Ex-Alderman F. P. Gleason.
City Engineer—Louis Enright.
Boller Inspector—M. J. Foreman.
Building Commissioner—W. D. Kent.

Among the men in the boxes at the Auditorium Harrison meeting Wednesday night were the following well-known business men, almost all of them Republicans:

F. H. Head, G. C. Eldredge, J. B. Payne, O. G. Foreman, W. C. Thorne, C. D. Penock, C. H. Conover, O. W. Meyersburg, J. Powell, J. W. Lowe, B. R. Wells, C. R. Crane, J. E. Otis, E. H. Fishburn, E. M. Hyman, C. D. Penock, I. Baumgart, C. M. Livingston, H. G. Selfridge, W. J. Chalmers, E. W. Morgan, R. S. Critchell, P. Juergens, R. Brand, A. F. Shiverick, J. McEwen, Jr., H. A. Knott, J. B. Gallows, W. D. Kerfoot, A. D. Philpot, J. V. Farwell, Jr., A. J. Kasper, P. J. Kasper, C. F. M. Smith, C. Fitz-Simons, A. Poole, J. C. Black, E. Mandel, L. Mandel, D. Mayer, G. Reider.

Washington Park blacklegs will have to practice vagrancy elsewhere. The race-track bill has been killed at Springfield.

The Altgeld forces are now complete. Congressman Cusack has joined them. They now expect to find some one to blame for their defeat.

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH CASE?

Friends of the West Side Senator Are Asking What Happened to His Gas Bills.

He Was an Ardent and Exemplary Enemy of the Gas Trust for a While.

And He Introduced a Bill Repealing the Consolidation Law Which Passed the Senate.

He Introduced a Bill Repealing the Frontage Law Which Has Evidently Been Lost.

The Chances for a Lively Old Investigation on This Score Are Very Good.

The many friends and admirers of Senator Selon H. Case are expressing astonishment at his course in the matter of the repeal of the infamous gas-frontage legislation.

He introduced a bill for the repeal of the gas-frontage law, and the repealer has been tied up ever since.

The Eagle believes Mr. Case to be an honest man.

It has the friendliest feelings toward him.

But in the face of the prevailing rumors, it is at a loss to account for the course he has pursued in this matter in the Senate.

Of course, the facts will all come out in time.

The people are exasperated over this matter.

In fact, their condition may be compared to that of a slumbering volcano. When they break out their wrath will be awful and irresistible.

The Gas Trust is universally execrated.

In Chicago all of its friends are despised.

The Gas Trust is a robber which enters every house.

It is looked upon by the people as a robber.

It is a robber.

The Gas Frontage law, purchased from the Legislature in 1897, with Gas Trust bribe money, confirms the robbery and forbids all competition with the Gas Trust.

The people demand the repeal of this infamous frontage law because it creates a monopoly and perfects a robbery.

Now what is the matter with Senator Case?

Sooner or later we will know.

Representative McGorty called up in the House Wednesday morning the committee bill providing for municipal ownership of lighting and heating plants, had it read a second time and made a special order for next Tuesday on its passage.

The Perpetual Monopoly created by the last Legislature is putting the screws on the suffering people of Chicago.

This Perpetual Monopoly is the Gas Trust, the meanest of all monopolies, because it taxes the inalienable right of mankind to light.

And because it enjoys a monopoly at the hands of the State, the Gas Trust extorts money from the people as it sees fit.

Every citizen knows how his gas bills have grown since the passage of the Gas Consolidation and Frontage measures by the last crooked Legislature.

These measures are the most iniquitous ever passed by any legislative body in the world.

They provided for the consolidation of all the gas companies in the city into one gigantic trust, and forbade all competition with that trust by passing any other law requiring any new gas company that might want to do business in Chicago to secure the consent of three-quarters of the owners of real estate in every block on the street in which it wished to lay mains before it could lay said mains.

Of course, this infamous law forever forbids any other gas company from

interfering with the robber crowd now at work.

And they are at work night and day robbing the poor people of Chicago.

Not only is the quality of gas furnished very poor, but it is even doubted whether any one in Chicago gets a correct gas bill.

The price now charged by the Trust for gas is an outrageous robbery and extortion.

It is money wrung from the pockets of the poor to swell the pockets of the rich, who are already bloated with wealth made from watered gas stock.

And the Eagle predicts that before the present agitation for the repeal of the Gas Consolidation and Frontage bills is over that many of the bribe-taking, thieving Senators and Representatives, who took money from the Gas Trust to vote for these measures, will leave town never to return.

One of the best nominations made by the Democracy is that of Mr. John T. Russell, the well-known business man, for Alderman of the Twenty-ninth Ward. Father Kelly and the best voters of the ward were in favor of Mr. Russell's nomination, and they had little difficulty in carrying the primary for him.

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